

Active Transformation is about keeping news of oppression in the public eye constantly through this newspaper, demonstrations, flyers, pamphlets, public media, etc. It is about exposing the lies of our times: pollution is progress; war is humanitarianism; soldiers are peacekeepers.

But more so AT is about Active Resistance to oppression and coercion - whatever form it takes: capitalism, sexism, homophobia, xenophobia, racism, destruction of the earth, militarism, etc. We realize militant direct action is what is needed to create a truly just society that guarantees adequate food and housing, democratic control of resources and technology, free access to education, land, health care.

Active Transformation is about concentration on the creation of better systems, as well as, destruction of oppressive, coercive systems. We work to build a non-hierarchical society today. It is about keeping hope for the future, while not forgetting your past, NON-APATHY, working toward a future society based on freedom, SELF-DETERMINATION, cooperation, mutual aid, and compassion between all living things for peaceful coexistence with the world.

Active Transformation is about having fun and making friends, communicating while resisting the state. Only through communication can our ideas grow and realize themselves. It is about making connections with individuals and groups all over the world. We are about supporting others in resistance.

ACTIVE TRANSFORMATION IS WORLDWIDE AUTONOMOUS REVOLUTION!
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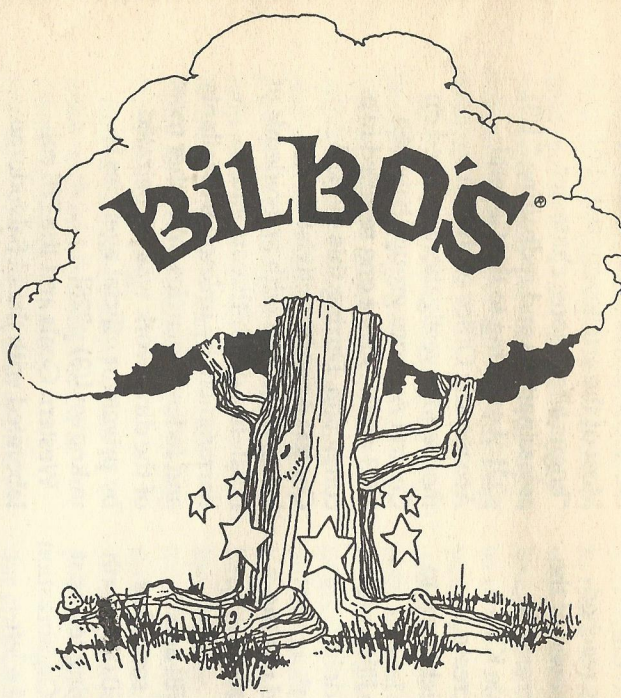
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**213 Ann Street
East Lansing, MI
332-6006**

Community Calendar

Please send us info on your resistance activities to be included in future community calendars in Active Transformation and our monthly AT Notes. We are very interested in supporting activism so keep in touch with us.

Wednesday August 31

Drop the Charges Against Anti-Fascist

Activist Loren Smalley

Demonstration

8 am Lansing City Hall

Thursday September 1

Critical Mass Bike Ride

4:30 PM Beaumont Tower

Saturday September 10

Green Arts Fest of ideas, art,

music,

and activism at Mic Mac Park

In Windsor Ontario

Monday September 19

International Food Not Bombs

Protest

Lansing Action at Riverfront Park

4pm

Free Food and Info

Friday September 30

Keep Fermi II Shut Down Rally

Detroit Edison Plaza in Detroit

4-6pm. Followed by music of Earth

Firster Daryl Chemey at Trumbull

theatre in Detroit.

Saturday October 1

Direct Action Festival in LaSalle, MI

Workshops: nukes, civil d., health

Music later on: Fugazi + more

info (313)831-6800

Sunday October 2

Blockade of Fermi II

2pm info: (313)831-6800

Saturday October 15

MAFNET Conference (see article)

Begins Sat morning

Columbus OH

Call (614)298-9306 for info

Tuesday October 18

Demonstrate against mandatory

minimums. 1-6pm Michigan State

Capitol Building

On Going Events

Every Saturday at 1 pm

Free Food and Fun at Fountain

Square in East Lansing

Every Wednesday at 8 pm

Active Transformation meetings

Join Us!

ACTIVE TRANSFORMATION

FREE

ISSUE 4 • FALL 1994

FEED THE POOR GO TO JAIL



Food Not Bombs activist

Keith McHenry was assaulted by San Francisco Mayor Frank Jordan's aide Nick Roomel. For this, McHenry a proven pacifist, was immediately charged with felony assault, felony grand theft, and felony strong arm robbery. He is out on bail \$100,000 that shows the obvious political ramifications of his arrest. Active Transformation, in solidarity with Food Not Bombs, will take part in their international protest for the rights of the home-

less and their supporters. We will serve a Food Not Bombs meal in Riverfront Park in Lansing at 4pm Monday September 19, 1994. This is the date McHenry is to start his trial.

Food Not Bombs serve free vegan food to homeless people in over 50 American cities. They take care of homeless people that the government would just disappear. This has got them in major trouble in San Francisco. The city has been on a campaign to kick the homeless off the streets

and Food Not Bombs has been the major oppositional voice. The city has made over 735 arrests of Food Not Bombs servers, but has dropped the charges on all but 20 cases.

The legal and physical assault against Keith McHenry is an attempt, through California's three strikes your out rule to get Keith off the streets for good. It also ties up FNB time and money into legal defense work. Please show your support for these dedicated activists who feed

the homeless every day of the week. Send letters of support and contrabutions to: Food Not Bombs 3145 Geary Boulevard, #12, San Francisco, CA 94118. Send letters demanding that the charges be dropped to: District Attorney Arlo Smith, Hall of Justice, 850 Bryant Street, room 325, San Francisco, CA 94103. For more info on the case contact Active Transformation >

DROP THE CHARGES AGAINST LOREN SMALLEY

Loren Smalley was arrested during the the police riot the resulted during the KKK's appearance in Lansing April 23. When the KKK left the Capitol steps, activists moved to the back of the Capitol Building. Police then fired tear gas and started making sweeps of activists. Ten people were arrested that day, mostly for failure to obey the cops.

Active Transformation with Loren have planned a press conference and demo. The press conference is Tuesday August 30th at 3pm at Lansing City Hall. We urge everyone to come out and support Loren at a demonstration the next morning, Wednesday August 31, at 8 am at City Hall.

Loren was an activist who had remained peaceful all day, even after being

sprayed in the face with pepper gas by the police for being to close to the fence. Later when he went around back cops told him to head home, and when he took off for home he was arrested for failure to obey a lawful order. Loren recieved bruises all over his arms and legs during arrest although he put forth no resistance. He also received damage to his lungs that

remained for a few weeks. Loren plead not guilty and has requested a jury trial. Since then he has been added the charge of "hindering a police officer". This is after he filed charges of police brutality. Loren's court appointed attorney, Todd Robinson has been brushing him off and not giving him the support he needs; or taking advantage of attorneys who have offered to do back up: Ken Birch and Eileen Scheff (who has taken the case of Dave Zylstra, who was charged with a felony at the KKK rally).

ACTIVE TRANSFORMATION MAILORDER INFORMATION

Fight Racism T-shirts Lrg only \$6

AT Notes - monthly bulletin (12) \$4

Active Transformation paper (4) \$4

Everything You Ever Wanted To

Know About Anarchism pamphlet \$1

Food Not Bombs info \$.50

AT political statement and History \$.50

FIGHT RACISM



RISE AND RESIST!

TAKE BACK E.L.

Enough is enough!!

This is starting to get ridiculous. First community police officers, now cops on horse back. If you don't know what I am getting at you soon will, over the summer the ELPD in hands with the businesses of downtown East Lansing and the good people of the rich and affluent White Hills have been putting the squeeze on the student population. Freshman know the law because many of you may be under the age of 18 and for your information it is illegal for you lil' kidz to be out past midnight, and you thought you would finally be free when you got to college, 'fraid not. Also those looking to congregate either for a party or for social or political gatherings, don't do it where other people can hear you, cuz East Lansing law states that you can be given a noise violation if just one person out of the 50,000+ population thinks you are being too loud, and there need not be any first warnings. What is too loud? Well, when I asked one of EL finest he said it is any noise that someone

reports, it can even be loud talking, and there are no hours set up for this law, it is supposed to be 24 hrs. of silence (except when the business want to make munny off of such yuppie events like the lack of Art Fair or the Michigan Festival).

Well this article is not just about bitching about how the gov't. of EL wants to put a squeeze on the student population, but it is a call on the students to put a squeeze on the gov't. What we have come up with is a ban of all EL businesses, and trying to get as many people out into the streets as possible. If we stay away from the businesses we will be saying we are not going to be up with your laws, we are not going to up with your deflated wages and your inflated costs, and if it comes down to it we are not going to put up with you. The student population has been pushed around to long and the rich have been getting a free ride off us and this must stop! So come to our meetings, or organize amongst yourselves, but when it comes to staying out, stay out together.

JIM BONE

COMMUNITY EXPANDS INTO PARK

This summer something new has sprung up in East Lansing, every Saturday, around noon somewhere between a handful of people to as many as 40 people show up at Fountain Square Park (on the corner of M.A.C. and Albert St.). Here everyone enjoys in an often delicious buffet, listens to music or on occasion a speaker, and just sits around and talks. It may not sound like much but it must be something right because the ELPD and East Lansing businesses can't stand it. All we have received are run arounds when we try to tell them what we are doing and threats when we go ahead and hold the event. We get all this for just trying to get people together in a non-commercial environment. One where people don't have to worry about the amount of money they have in their pockets. It is kind of

based on the idea- each according to their ability, each according to their needs, so no one will be turned down to the food or the music.

If you are interested, this is how it works, if everyone that can and wants to buys some bulk food (which is cheaper than buying small individual items) and spends a few minutes with some friends to prepare it, they can bring their dish down to the fountain and enjoy the food that other people have also made. So in spending 2-4 dollars one can have a full buffet, which would probably cost you over 5 dollars in one East Lansing's eating establishments.

So come on down, we will try and provide a live band or something of the sort every single time, and if you have any ideas or suggestions feel free to stop by the meetings on Wed. at Bilbo's.

Note: There are a few changes to this issue. Last issue it was our hope that we would be able to put out an 8-page paper as frequently as possible. But nothin' ever works that way. Last time we were dependent on LCC's money, and surprise, surprise after they read our paper they decided to make up their own rules and cut off all of our money from the school, thus censor us forever. So the outlook of our next paper changed. Immediately we realized that we would not be able to put out a paper as frequently as hoped, and the length would also have to be sacrificed. All of us decided though that it was extra important to get some money together and push out something for the new school year, plus we started to have an accumulation of articles (thank you to those who wrote articles, both those present here and those that will be hopefully in later issues). We did this because we realize the importance of getting people involved, whether with us, someone else, or by themselves. This is to be a shot at all the people who come to this area, and join some club (er, frat or sorority) and do more to detract from this community than add to this community. We are saying to you, it doesn't take that much to make a change, or at least to get people talking. So if you want to comment on what you see before you (whether good or bad), write us at P.O. Box 6746 E. Lansing, MI 48826

FIGHT THE RIGHT

"Cops and the Klan go hand in hand" so goes the saying. But what does that mean? Is it simply a saying used to aggravate cops who protect the Ku Klux Klan's right to free speech as they would any U.S. citizen's? After all shouldn't all groups be protected under the law fairly and equally unless such groups infringe on the rights of others.

Such kind of thinking is subtly misleading. This thinking assumes all groups are equally protected under the law, but such is not the case.

The KKK and other right-wing groups are given far superior protection than other political dissidents. Not only that but they are used by the government to suppress popular dissent on the left of the political spectrum. At least since the late fifties the government aided and abetted the Klan in destroying movements such as the civil rights movement of the sixties. The FBI agent Gary Thomas Rowe participated in beatings of Freedom Riders trying to integrate busing, fired the fatal shot that killed civil rights worker Viola Liuzzo, and was responsible for the death of four black children in a bombing of a church. [(2)p170]

The Klan was allowed to brutalize the civil rights movements with numerous bombings, murders, and harassment all the while never being prosecuted by the FBI. In four years in Mississippi there were 326 acts of violence with 210 of them being bombings against the civil rights movement. At the time 20% of Klan was directly reporting back to the FBI. [(1)p60] "FBI agents reached leadership positions in seven of the fourteen Klan groups across the country, headed one state Klan organization and even created a splinter Klan group which grew to nearly two-hundred members." [(1)p60] The FBI used the idea that they were doing counter-intelligence work against the Klan to infiltrate and use the Klan for their own purposes. [(1)p12-13]

Between 1971-72 the FBI agent Howard Berry Godfrey served as the conduit to pump \$60,000 worth of arms into the right-wing terrorist group the Secret Army Organization (SAO) which bombed a left-leaning theatre, burgled several new left organizations in Southern California and was compiling a list of left-wing activists to be "liquidated." He was never prosecuted for these crimes he freely admits too. [(2)p224-225]

In 1979—well after the FBI told congress the Counter Intelligence Programs of the Sixties and early seventies would never happen again—a KKK/Nazi death squad led by an FBI informant in conjunction with a local American Nazi Party branch headed by a US Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms undercover agent ambushed an anti-Klan march and assassinated the leaders of the Communist Workers Party contingent in the march. The police

forewarned of the upcoming ambush pulled away as the death squad moved in for the kill. The police did nothing to stop them. [(1)p28-29]

In the 1980s the FBI entered a new phase in the use of right-wing groups to suppress popular political activism. The private conservative group Western Goals is a good example. Western Goal's agenda was to bolster the power of the FBI. They began to build the largest private database file on "subversives" in the country to replace the FBI's subversive file which had been ordered dismantled. The use of private intelligence groups could bypass Freedom of Information Act lawsuits and regulation by Congress. This action was mandated by a Reagan executive order stating intelligence agencies could "enter into contracts or arrangements for the provision of goods or services with private companies or institutions in the United States and need not reveal the sponsorship of such contracts or arrangements for authorized intelligence purposes." [(3)p22]

The FBI began a new Counter-Intelligence Program-style operation in the eighties against the Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES) and Central America groups opposed to Reagan administration policies in El Salvador. Often times articles would turn up in FBI files from Western Goals publications as the source for opening investigations into Central America groups. Congress who later investigated would call these sources unsubstantiated and unreliable. Most of the articles consisted of "bogus allegations, character assassinations and redbaiting." [(3)p22] According to the General Accounting Office of the ten-thousand investigations opened on Central America groups between 1983 and 1990 not one resulted in a conviction. During this period Central America activists were being harassed with an epidemic of break-ins, death-threats and harassment by unknown assailants and federal agencies. Whether most of the dirty work was perpetrated by private or official agencies is unknown. [(3)p228]

Western Goals and the FBI collaborated with the El Salvadoran National Guard which is notorious for using death squads against the people of its country. Some refugees in the U.S. reported being threatened by Salvadorans who used death squad techniques. Also the FBI drew information from a Mexico right-wing group called the Tecos. Also the FBI gathered intelligence from such groups as the Tecos, a rabidly paranoid anti-communist group based in Mexico; the Council for Inter-American Security, Students for a Better America, the Young Americas Foundation, and the Rev. Sun Myung Moon's organization. [(3)p22]

Such Far Right organizations are very dangerous. Groups like the Klan are not just fringe groups who

continued on pg. 4

MAFNET - BATTLING FASCISM

MAFNET, the Midwest Anti-Fascist Network, has set its kick-off conference in Columbus, Ohio October 15-16. The network was proposed due to massive Klan and nazi organizing in the area and the need for a united front to organize and act against fascism. The network is supported by such groups as, The Blast/Agitator Index, Trotskyist League, Anti-Racist Action-Columbus, Love and Rage/Anti-Fascist Working Group, among many others.

The proposed points of unity put forth by Paul Lefrak are as follows: 1) The need for mass mobilization at the place where the fascists are scheduled to show up; 2) not relying on the cops or the courts to "ban the Klan"; 3) non-sectarian defense of anti-fascist activists facing state repression; and 4) broad mobilizations to stop fascists by fighting racism, anti-semitism, sexism and anti-lesbian /gay oppression.

Paul also described the purpose of the conference "to democratically decide on points of unity, structure, clarifying our purpose, deciding on a name, fundraising, etc." The conference will also have educational workshops, some kind of action (maybe around Columbus Day), and a social event. Workshops may include legal defense; media, racism and anti-fascist activism; "Greensboro massacre" video showing and discussion; anti-Klan activism-action; Community outreach.

For more info on the conference contact AT or Anti Racist Action:PO Box 02097, Columbus, OH 43202.

STATE-WIDE NETWORK PROPOSED

Activists from all over Michigan met in Howell to discuss and hold a public forum on a proposed KKK rally for the town. Independents, as well as, folks from Workers World Party, Trotskyist League, Love and Rage, NWROC, Socialist Workers Party, Active Transformation, among others took part. It was originally planned to let community members know there would be a counter-demonstration if the klan rallied, and that they were wanted to take part in it. Unfortunately only one community person showed up (oh, except for three really bumbling undercover cops).

Fortunately we discussed having monthly meetings in or around Howell where different serious activist groups could get together and discuss projects. Since we have a lot of common ground we could help each other, and at the same time be more effective. Howell is centrally located for Detroit, Ann Arbor, Flint, and Lansing.

Active Transformation wants to work with activists interested in smashing sexism, racism, homophobia, fascism, and capitalism. Although some of our tactics differ; we all agree these issues need to be dealt with through militant action.

The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday August 20th at 3pm at the Old Courthouse in Howell. Anyone else interested in networking contact us!



STAMP ACT

In the process of being screwed by Uncle Sam, a few enterprising folks have decided that screwing is a 2-way street. (bad sexual pun intended.) Many ingenious scams have been devised to snatch a bit of the government's pie and give it back to the people from whence it came; my particular area of expertise happens to be the United States Postal Service. This information works, and how — I was able to run a small record distribution without charging for postage! Imagine being able to send a letter to whomever you want, whenever you want — FREE! Although many of these activities are technically federal crimes punishable by jail terms and/or fines, the chance of getting caught is microscopic. Still, it might be a good idea to use a "nickname" if you plan on doing large quantities of such mailings. Incidentally, this essay is for information purposes only and I do not encourage anyone to actually do any of this (ahem, nudge nudge, wink wink).

One useful technique is to use chemicals to remove the cancel marks from stamps, thereby making them reusable (hey, sounds a lot like recycling!). I have tried a number of formulas, with varying degrees of success. Placing stamps face-down on deodorant and leaving them overnight nets a few clean ones, but is messy and inconvenient especially when you realize you only have one stick. Alcohol will only clean maybe 1 in 20 stamps (soak an hour or so). I then tried various mixtures of alcohol and bleach. I soon learned: the more bleach, the better. Eventually, I began using pure bleach, with about two-thirds of the stamps coming clean. Soaking time was reduced to about ten minutes (some stubborn ones came clean after 30).

Fair warning: leaving the stamps in any liquid will make them fragile. Use tweezers, etc. to pick them up. It's best to put them on the envelope still somewhat wet, as drying them sometimes causes odd results (wrinkling, bubbling of the paper, etc.) Use care! These are easy to tear. Letting them soak for too long will cause certain disintegration. Be sure to tell your roommates what you are up to. You wouldn't want them to trash your bowl/jar/glass of fluid. Also, some people become ill from strong bleach fumes. Avoiding these pitfalls will allow you to make about \$30-\$40 from a 99-cent jug. In the event a stamp still has a partially visible cancel at the edge, use another stamp (maybe a throwaway such as a 1-cent) to overlap and cover it up. One last "solution" from a stamp collector friend: for very old stamps, use. . . . drum roll please . . . tap water!

Ever gotten business envelopes with a funny postal symbol in the corner? Quicker than stamps, these "postal meters" are used by many companies. They purchase the machine from an office supply dealer, who in turn purchases the credits from the postal people. (one such dealer is Pitney-Bowes, Inc.). The mark is either put on an envelope directly, or on a small white sticker with serrated edges which is stuck on the parcel. Usually, these marks are not canceled, so the envelopes can be reused (simply change the addresses. Don't worry, be sloppy, it'll go through). The stickers can be cut out and pasted on new packages. Good places to find such envelopes (besides in your own junk mail), are the garbage cans at the post office, law firms, realtors' offices, insurance offices and record stores. Speaking of record store dumpsters, I owe my collection of Aretha Franklin posters to those marvels of modern civilization.

Who needs postage anyway? Once I sent a postcard with a Bruce Springsteen stamp from Columbia House on it. It went through!

Eight-and-a half by eleven envelopes (normal paper size), can be stuffed until they're fat and sent for two 29-cent stamps anywhere in America (though the P. O. will say it needs about three or four bucks of postage if you take it to them to weigh!) I've also sent a huge package across country for 30 cents. It was marked insufficient postage, but it got there — in 3 days!

Another useful trick is to put the address of the person you are mailing to as the return address, and a nonexistent address for the destination. Using this is slow and not 100% reliable, but it allows you to send your letter off without putting any postage on it whatsoever! Also, some people may have 2 or more addresses (such as a band whose members live in different houses). Put 1 for the return, and 1 for the destination. It will arrive. This works best (and quickest) if both addresses are fairly local.

Last, but certainly not least, there is the immense promise of photocopying 'no postage necessary' envelopes, although I haven't tried it. There's a whole world of possibilities — waiting to be plucked like so many dingleberries.

LANGUAGE OF SERVITUDE

Throughout history there have been thousands of uprisings. Many reasons have been attributed to why such insurrections have often been thwarted (e.g. lack of unity, strength, etc.) but rarely do we go back and point to a more subversive reason these revolts did not follow through. There is of course a good reason these were overlooked, because they were subversive, which makes what I am about to write about extremely difficult and honestly quite confusing to probably both parties. What I am getting at is that those revolting were normally still stuck in the constraints of the old ruling class's language. It has been often said that those that control the language control the ideas (e.g. woman's rights movement). So although many of the rebels knew that they were experiencing a rage that was so strong inside that they took up arms, it was impossible in their "pre-revolution" state to express to one another what was actually going on and thus failure was inevitable. This may explain why the next thousand words or so may be so difficult to swallow, because while I am explaining a void, I do not understand the void since I have never know other than the void. Following so far.

This void can occur in variety of ways, two easy ones that I have been able to grasp is that 1st.) words that are for those oppressed are kept away from them since the ruling class control all major modes of education. 2nd.) The language is manipulated to create a society where everyone is yelling "give me", and one must know that freedom can not be given from above, but it must be taken by those on the bottom.

Examining each further, it might be easier now to understand why such systems like Englerized outcome based education have been popping up all over Amerika. They say it is cheaper, and it is need due to the recession we are in. True, it is needed for the recession, but not because it is cheaper. Outcome based education is a system that would rather have children memorize rather than learn. It is a system created to turn every child into another cog in the machine, it is an attempt at having a mass production of clones. Clones that will do their monotonous job very well, and not pay any attention to growing amount of upheaval in the working class. Why do you think every school district in Amerika is down sizing its Art and Literature programs, so the child will become more and more binary. They realize that the worst type of revolutionary is a passionate intelligent revolutionary. One that can express their views and allow others to see a way out. Sure, this math and science heavy curriculum

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

can make for excellent bomb experts, but normally a very confused revolutionaries.

The 2nd way in which people are held down, is that they think they are saying one thing but their word usage portrays something else. This not only makes those around this person question their intentions but can also confuse the individual into thinking everything they say is contradictory to how they feel (which is true but doesn't have to be). An example would be someone saying, "Blah, blah, blah is a basic human liberty, I just hope the government realizes that so we can be free." What? So many people understand how humans should exist-free, but either they think they have to be polite and ask for their "basic human liberty" or they have just been assimilated into another little bird. This little bird sits there with their mouth open hoping that the mama bird (the gov't.) won't let them starve, or that food will just fall out of the sky. What we should be doing is standing up for ourselves and taking what is rightfully our. No matter what ones rational is, there should be no sorries when it comes to surviving and we should be conveying that in our speech as well as our actions.

So what I have described is a society that is becoming more and more uni-thought, in that we can not handle more than one concept or one plot at time. A society that is becoming more passive, with a smaller and smaller attention span. One that finds its pleasures with simple machines and no longer with people. One that enjoys being told what is important. And so on and so on. I guess you could say that the void is growing.

Stop the void think, and expand.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

have minimal effect on society and are best ignored. Such groups too often coordinate their actions with the government if it is beneficial. Don't get the wrong impression. Far Right groups are not all unified and only as powerful as the government lets them be. This is just the tip of the iceberg more could be below the surface. This article is also minus plain government covert activity such as how the movements of the sixties were broken by the FBI or the government funded death-squads against the American Indian Movement. Keeping track of such groups and resisting them through public pressure is not only important for what such groups might do politically on their own—like spreading racist violence—but how they may be amplified and used by our government to against us.

I highly recommend my sources of information they are: (1) The War at Home by Brian Glick, (2) The COINTELPRO Papers by Ward Churchill and Jim Vander Wall, and (3) Break-ins, Death Threats, and the FBI by Ross Gelbspan.

Resist the Racist Crime Bill

The media has convinced us that we all live in an intense fear of crime, fanned by shows like Cops and America's Most Wanted. But if we look thru the cloud of hysteria we would see that crime has decreased 3-5% (Daily Spectacle, Jan 1994). The US government is using this as an excuse to pass Clinton's racist crime bill. It is an attempt to tighten control of the people of this country, while taking no look at the causes of crime. Afraid of what it might find?

The bill is a massive violation of our human rights. It adds more than 60 new offences that would be punished by death, restrictions on death row appeals, and mandatory life sentences for people convicted of three violent crimes (including crimes against property). It also allows trying 13 year olds as adults in some cases and would put 100,000 more pigs on our streets. These are only some of the more public parts of the bill. It allows for deportation of "aliens" lawfully residing in this country without telling them the charges on the grounds they are a "threat to national security". The FBI would be able to access our telephone records without warrants. The bill will fund 10 new prisons or youth boot camps; ban 19 semi-automatic weapons.

Some of the more racist measures include making "being a member in

a street gang", "conspiring to be a member of a street gang", or "inducing someone to become a member of a street gang" federal crimes, allow the government to decree a "drug emergency area" in which the government could "take all necessary actions to save lives and protect property", including directing any federal agency to send in it's troops. It will also give 345.5 million dollars for new "drug war" personnel.

Everyone knows the "drug war" is a sham. White drug addicts outnumber black addicts five to one, but the drug war is directed almost entirely against inner city blacks. Our "justice" system is hopelessly racist. The US has the highest incarceration rate with African Americans making up the highest percentage arrested and prosecuted while only making up twelve percent of the population. This bill allows mainly white ruling class males to decide the definition of "conspiring gang member", is it a black male in hip hop gear or maybe armed community self-defense guards? The crimes that get beefed up sentences are ones that African American males often commit, like armed robbery; unlike child molestation where the offenders are usually white and judges are likely to depart from guidelines and just "punish" with probation. To not delve into the causes of crime is to

indict itself to business as usual - and that business is continuance of class and race oppression of America's poor communities - continuance of the colonial war against Black America that started with the first slaveship.

100,000 more cops, means the army of the rich is that much stronger. We must resist this fascist attack on our human rights and that means organizing within our communities to kick the cops out of our neighborhoods to be replaced with real community control. It means building the social services in our communities so we can sustain ourselves. It also means organizing nationwide to defend ourselves against the state, and ultimately to destroy it; for it is at war with the people of AmeriKa. It is their law, not ours - it's time for our voice - and our action!



REMEMBER



WE'RE STILL HERE

Anarchist Black Cross began during the Russian revolution and is an international network of autonomous groups of anarchists that work to ensure imprisoned activists are not forgotten. Lorenzo Kom'boa Ervin laid out a 15 point program of ABC in the second issue of the Blast. They include, but are not limited to, organizing political defense committees, holding protest actions in support of prisoner's rights and against repressive state actions, doing press work, organizing funds, working in coalitions to broaden the prisoner movement, assist with parole, do correspondence, work against the death penalty, expose the capitalist injustice system, demand the closing of control units, and engage in armed support actions when prisoner's lives are directly at stake.

Active Transformation will carry ABC Prisoner info in each issue. Prisoner's need our support. For more info on prisoners or ABC contact Love and Rage ABC - Rachel at po box 853, Peter Stuy. Station, NYC, NY 10009.

Mumia Abu-Jamal is one prisoner whose life may be immediately at stake very soon. An award winning Philadelphian journalist, head of the local chapter of the Association of Black Journalists, Mumia became an enemy of the state for his journalistic work on the persecution of the Black nationalist group MOVE.

In 1978, the mayor of Philadelphia ordered the bombing of a MOVE home. Explosives provided by the FBI were dropped on the house, destroying an entire block of Black working class homes. Survivors of the blast were gunned down by a 500 strong police force. Stemming from the raid 15 MOVE members were arrested for the killing of one cop. Many of the survivors are still in prison today. Mumia became known to the community as the "voice of the oppressed" for his coverage of the MOVE bombing and following persecution. His subsequent frameup and trial is a clear case of political persecution.

In December 1981 Mumia saw a cop beating his brother who had allegedly been pulled over for a traffic violation. Mumia rushed to help and during the confrontation received a bullet in his chest. A cop also died and Mumia was charged with his death. Mumia was then viciously beaten. Police found him in a pool of his own blood, unable to breathe and started to punch, kick, and stomp him. They took him by the arms and rammed his head into a pole repeatedly.

Mumia's trial began on June 1, 1982. Mumia was allowed to represent himself by Judge Sabo,

but was denied co-counsel of his choice, John Africa. Instead the judge ordered his court appointed attorney to be back up, although he openly stated he wanted nothing to do with the case. Sabo barred Mumia from questioning potential jurors on grounds that his appearance was threatening. Since the DA wanted the death penalty all potential jurors that opposed the death penalty were dismissed, meaning all blacks but one. eventually the judge took away his right to defend himself. A line of state witnesses testified often changing their stories and contradicting police reports and testimony. On July 2 Mumia was found guilty. Mumia addressed the jury, "On December 9, 1981 the police tried to execute me in the street—this trial is the result of their failure to do so. Just as the police tried to kill my brothers and sisters of the Family Africa, on August 8, 1978, they failed, and hence, a trial was conducted to complete my execution."

On July 3, Mumia was sentenced to die in the electric chair and has been on death row ever since! He is a political prisoner who's appeals have been exhausted. As his execution draws nearer, we must do something to keep the state from murdering this powerful brother. To help with his defense donations can be made to the Bill of Rights Foundation-Jamal and sent to the Committee to Save Mumi Abu-Jamal, 163 Amsterdam Ave., no 115, NYC, NY 10023-5001. Letters of support can be sent to Mumia Abu-Jamal, AM8335, 1100 Pike Street, Huntingdon, PA 16652-1112.